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FOR IMMEDIATE PRESS RELEASE:

Goodhue County Treatment Court

Goodhue County Justice Center, Red Wing, MN – September 26, 2018

Goodhue County has been awarded a substantial federal grant in support of the Goodhue County Adult Treatment Court. Goodhue County applied for funding from the United States Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance Grant in June 2018. The Adult Drug Court Discretionary Grant, in the amount of \$499,469 covering 2019 – 2022, will allow the county to establish the Goodhue County Adult Treatment and serve individuals who have a substance abuse disorder. In addition, the grant will fund the following:

- Full-time drug court coordinator
- Intensive Outpatient Treatment
- Frequent drug testing

The Goodhue County Adult Treatment Court will become the 62nd operational Adult Drug Treatment Court in the State of Minnesota. Drug treatment courts serve as treatment-based alternatives to prison. These courts make extensive use of comprehensive supervision, frequent drug testing, treatment services, immediate sanctions, and incentives. The Drug Treatment Court team that works directly with the participants includes judges, prosecutors, defense counsel, substance-abuse treatment specialists, probation officers, law enforcement, and the drug court coordinator.

Following are quotes from County staff involved in the process:

Judge Douglas Bayley:

“This is fantastic news for Goodhue County! The Goodhue County Treatment Court will have a positive impact on public safety at the same time as it offers a real, helping hand to our community members struggling with addiction. Receiving this federal grant was the result of a huge team effort. We also have wide-spread community support for a treatment court. I look forward to getting the Goodhue County Treatment Court up and running!”

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1825 Twin Bluff Rd
Red Wing, MN 55066

County Commissioner Paul Drotos:

“The only thing worse than drug addiction is not doing something about it. The Goodhue County Drug Treatment Court is a monumental achievement by concerned citizens to overcome complacency about a human tragedy. The problem isn’t just drugs, the problem is when we turn our backs on the people and the problems that most need our help. That help is sorely needed to continue to educate, advocate, and appreciate the behaviors and commitments that can defeat the pushers. The Drug Treatment Court is a great start on the work that may never be finished. The only thing worse than drug addiction is not doing something about it.”

Assistant County Attorney Stephen F. O’Keefe:

“The Goodhue County Attorney’s office looks forward to utilizing these additional federal resources to battle the most pressing issue facing our citizens and justice partners. We are thankful to the U. S. Department of Justice for providing these very substantial funds to help address drug abuse, addiction, crime and its related adverse impacts on our society. “

Health and Human Service Director Nina Arneson:

“I am so thankful for the leadership of Judge Bayley, Goodhue County Attorney’s Office and many others for not giving up and making this a reality for Goodhue County. This treatment court grant will allow Goodhue County to add a much needed evidenced based “tool” in our toolbox to help County residents struggling addictions. Multiple studies have confirmed that treatment courts work and they work by treating addictions as an illness with intensive, highly structured activities along with supports and judicial oversight. This new tool in Goodhue County will save lives and families.”

Goodhue County

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If you would like more information about this topic, please call Scott.O. Arneson at 651-385-3001 or email at scott.arneson@co.goodhue.mn.us